



Periodic Review / Retain Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Virginia Department of Health
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	12 VAC 5- 530
Regulation title	Regulations Governing The Virginia Medical Scholarship Program
Document preparation date	May 4, 2009

This form is used when the agency has done a periodic review of a regulation and plans to retain the regulation without change. This information is required pursuant to Executive Orders 36 (2006) and 58 (1999).

Legal basis

Please identify the state and/or federal legal authority for the regulation, including (1) the most relevant law and/or regulation, and (2) promulgating entity, i.e., agency, board, or person.

The Board of Health is authorized to promulgate these regulations pursuant to Section 32.1-12 of the *Code of Virginia*. Code Section 32.1-12 authorizes the Board to make, adopt, promulgate, and enforce such regulations as necessary to carry out the provisions of Title 32.1 and other laws of the Commonwealth administered by the Commissioner of the Department. Code Sections 32.1-122.5, 32.1-122.5:1, 32.1-122.6, and 32.1-122.6:01 authorize the Board of Health to award annual medical scholarships for students enrolled full-time at a participating medical school or a graduate of such school. The Office of the Attorney General has certified that the Board of Health has proper authority to promulgate this regulation.

Alternatives

Please describe all viable alternatives for achieving the purpose of the existing regulation that have been considered as part of the periodic review process. Include an explanation of why such alternatives were rejected and why this regulation is the least burdensome alternative available for achieving the purpose of the regulation.

The State Health Commissioner, as executive officer of the Board of Health, sees no viable alternative for achieving the purpose of the existing regulation.

Public comment

Please summarize all comments received during the public comment period following the publication of the Notice of Periodic Review, and provide the agency response. Please indicate if an informal advisory group was formed for purposes of assisting in the periodic review.

Commenter	Comment	Agency response

There were no public comments following the publication of the Notice of Periodic Review.

Effectiveness

Please indicate whether the regulation meets the criteria set out in Executive Order 36, e.g., is necessary for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare, and is clearly written and easily understandable.

This regulation is clearly written and is easily understandable. It provides medical scholarships to students in medical school. For every year of a medical scholarship received, the medical student is required to provide a year of primary care service (family medicine, general internal medicine, pediatric medicine, or obstetrics/gynecology) in a Virginia medically underserved area upon completion of residency. Two hundred and fourteen (214) medical students were nominated by participating medical schools into this scholarship award program. Scholarship recipients could have one (minimum) to five (maximum) years of service obligation in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Currently, 11 recipients are still in a residency program and will owe primary care service to the Commonwealth. Also, 24 recipients are still serving in Virginia. Scholarship recipients are increasing access to quality primary care in Virginia's medically underserved area.

Result

Please state that the agency is recommending that the regulation should stay in effect without change.

The agency is recommending that the regulation should stay in effect without change.

Family impact

Please provide an analysis of the regulation's impact on the institution of the family and family stability.

Overall, this regulation has a positive impact on the institution of the family and family stability. Helping to relieve some of the overall medical school debt of medical students while in medical training will save disposable family income and increase potential earnings for the future. In addition, increasing the availability of physicians in medically underserved areas will benefit the health of those communities and families.